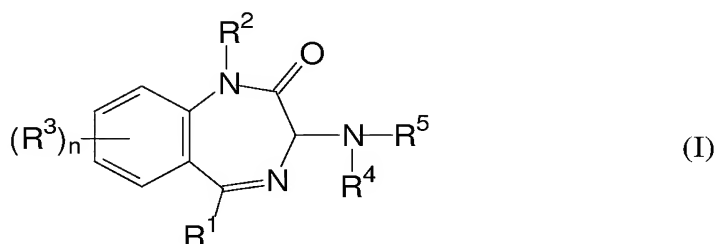


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of the claims and listing of the claims in the application:

What is claimed is:

1. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a patient suffering from or susceptible to an RSV infection, which method comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,



wherein:

- R^1 represents C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;
- R^2 represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- each R^3 is the same or different and represents halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, $-CO_2R'$, $-CONR'R''$, $-NH-CO-R'$, $-S(O)R'$, $-S(O)_2R'$, $-NH-S(O)_2R'$, $-S(O)NR'R''$ or $-S(O)_2NR'R''$, wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- n is from 0 to 3;
- R^4 represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- R^5 represents C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, aryl-(C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl)-, aryl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)-, carbocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heterocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)- or $-XR^6$;
- X represents $-CO-$, $-S(O)-$ or $-S(O)_2-$; and
- R^6 represents C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-6}

alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR'¹R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-.

2. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein:

- each R³ is the same or different and represents halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ haloalkyl, C₁₋₆ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, di(C₁₋₆ alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, -CO₂R', -CONR'¹R'', -NH-CO-R', -S(O)R', -S(O)₂R', -NH-S(O)₂R' or -S(O)NR'¹R'', wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C₁₋₆ alkyl;
- R⁵ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or -XR⁶;
- X represents -CO-, -S(O)- or -S(O)₂-; and
- R⁶ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or -NR'¹R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-.

3. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is C₁₋₂ alkyl or aryl.

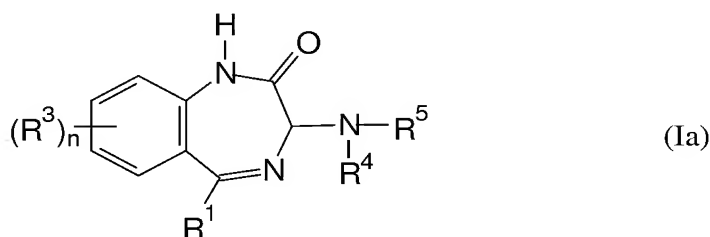
4. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein R² is hydrogen.

5. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein R³ is halogen, hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkylthio, C₁₋₄ haloalkyl, C₁₋₄ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino or di(C₁₋₄ alkyl)amino.

6. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 5, wherein R³ is fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₂ alkyl, C₁₋₂ alkoxy, C₁₋₂ alkylthio, C₁₋₂ haloalkyl, C₁₋₂ haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino or di (C₁₋₂ alkyl)amino.

7. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-2} alkyl.
8. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein R^5 is C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, aryl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)- or $-XR^6$.
9. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 8, wherein R^5 is C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-, phenyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)- or $-XR^6$.
10. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 9, wherein R^5 is C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, furanyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, benzothienyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, phenyl- CH_2 -, furanyl- CH_2 -, phenyl-C(O)-C(O)-, thienyl-C(O)-C(O)- or $-XR^6$.
11. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein X is $-CO-$ or $-S(O)_2-$.
12. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein, when R^6 is a group $-NR'R''$ wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, aryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)- or heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-.
13. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12, wherein when R^6 is a group $-NR'R''$ each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl- CH_2 -.
14. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, wherein when R^6 is a group $-NR'R''$ and one of R' and R'' is hydrogen.
15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein R^6 is C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-, aryl-(C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4} hydroxyalkyl)-, aryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-4} alkyl)-O- or $-NR'R''$.

16. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 15, wherein R^6 is C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-, phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-, phenyl-(C_{1-2} hydroxyalkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-2} hydroxyalkyl)- or $-NR'R''$.
17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 16, wherein R^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, indolyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-, phenyl- $CH_2-CH(OH)-$, phenyl- $CH(OH)-CH_2-$, phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-O-, 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-onyl or $-NR'R''$.
18. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the benzodiazepine derivative of formula (I) is a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (Ia):



wherein:

- R^1 is phenyl or methyl;
- R^3 is methyl or chlorine;
- n is 0 or 1;
- R^4 is hydrogen or methyl;
- R^5 is phenyl- CH_2- , furanyl- CH_2- , thienyl- $C(O)-C(O)-$ or $-XR^6$;
- X is $-CO-$ or $-S(O)_2-$; and
- R^6 is C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, indolyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-, phenyl- $CH_2-CH(OH)-$, phenyl- $CH(OH)-CH_2-$, phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)-O-, 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-onyl or $-NR'R''$ wherein each

R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl- $(CH_2)-$,

the phenyl moiety in the group R^1 being unsubstituted or substituted by a single fluorine, chlorine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkoxy, C_{1-2} alkylthio, C_{1-2} haloalkyl or C_{1-2} haloalkoxy substituent;

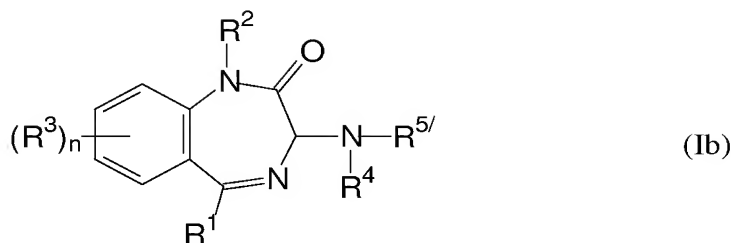
the aryl moieties in the groups R^5 and R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by 1,2 or 3 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, C_{1-4} haloalkyl, C_{1-4} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, nitro, $-CO_2R'$, $-S(O)_2R'$ and $-S(O)_2NH_2$, wherein R' represents C_{1-2} alkyl;

the heteroaryl moieties in the groups R^5 and R^6 being unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} haloalkyl and di(C_{1-2} alkyl)amino; and

the heterocyclyl and carbocyclyl moieties in the R^6 group being unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro.

19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the patient is a child under two years of age.
20. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 19 wherein said child suffers from chronic lung disease.
21. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein the patient is an infant less than six years of age who was born after 32 weeks of gestation or less.
22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein the benzodiazepine derivative or salt thereof is administered intranasally or intrabronchially.
23. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1, wherein an anti-inflammatory compound or an anti-influenza compound is further administered to the patient.
24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 23 wherein the anti-inflammatory compound is budesonide or fluticasone.

25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 23 wherein the anti-inflammatory compound is a leukotriene antagonist, phosphodiesterase 4 inhibitor or TNF alpha inhibitor.
26. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 23 wherein the anti-inflammatory compound is an interleukin 8 or interleukin 9 inhibitor.
- 27-30. (Canceled)
31. (Withdrawn) An inhaler or nebuliser containing a medicament which comprises
- (a) a benzodiazepine derivative of formula (I), as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and
 - (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
32. (Withdrawn) A product comprising a compound of formula (I), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as defined in claim 1, and an anti-inflammatory compound, or an anti-influenza compound.
33. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a patient suffering from or susceptible to concomitant RSV and influenza infections, which method comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a product according to claim 32.
34. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a patient suffering from or susceptible to human metapneumovirus, measles, parainfluenza viruses, mumps, yellow fever virus (B5 strain), Dengue 2 virus or West Nile virus, which method comprises administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
35. (Currently amended) A ~~benzodiazepine derivative~~ compound of formula (Ib), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



wherein:

- R^1 represents C_{1-6} alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;
- R^2 represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- each R^3 is the same or different and represents halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, nitro, cyano, $-CO_2R'$, $-CONR''$, $-NH-CO-R'$, $-S(O)R'$, $-S(O)_2R'$, $-NH-S(O)_2R'$, $-S(O)NR''$ or $-S(O)_2NR''$, wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- n is from 0 to 3;
- R^4 represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;
- $R^{5/}$ represents C_{3-6} alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, aryl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)-, carbocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heterocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)- or $-X'$, provided that when $R^{5/}$ is heteroaryl it is not 2-quinaldyl or 6-chloro-pyrazinyl, when $R^{5/}$ is heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)- it is not 2-indolylmethyl, 2-(3-indolyl)ethyl or 2-furanylmethyl, when $R^{5/}$ is aryl it is not unsubstituted phenyl and when $R^{5/}$ is aryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)- it is not unsubstituted phenyl-(C_{1-2} alkyl)- or 4-chlorophenyl-(C_{2-3} alkyl)-;
- X' represents $-CO-R^{6/}$, $-S(O)-R^{6//}$ or $-S(O)_2-R^{6///}$;
- $R^{6/}$ represents C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, aryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-O- or $-NR'R''$ wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C_{1-6} alkyl)-, provided that (a) when $R^{6/}$ is aryl it is not unsubstituted

naphthyl, unsubstituted phenyl, mono-halophenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 4-hydroxyphenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-*n*-propylphenyl, 4-*t*-butylphenyl, 4-*n*-pentylphenyl, 4-dimethylaminophenyl, 4-methylthiophenyl, 3-trifluoromethylthiophenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dichlorophenyl, 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl, 4-chloro-2-aminophenyl or 4-1,1-dimethylethylphenyl, (b) when R^{6'} is heteroaryl it is not 2-pyrrolyl, 2-pyrazinyl, 2-quinaldyl, 2-quinoxaliny, 1-methylindolyl, 2-methyl-indolyl, 2-benzofuranyl, 2-benzothienyl, 3-thienyl, 3-indolyl, unsubstituted 2-indolyl, 5-fluoroindol-2-yl, 5-chloroindol-2-yl, 5-bromoindol-2-yl, 5-hydroxyindol-2-yl or 5-methoxyindol-2-yl, (c) when R^{6'} is aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- it is not 4-thianaphthene-(CH₂)-, unsubstituted phenyl-(CH₂)-, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl-(CH₂)-, unsubstituted phenyl-(CH₂)₃-, monotrifluoromethylphenyl-(CH₂)₂-, 3-methoxyphenyl-(CH₂)₂-, 4-chloro-2-aminophenyl-(CH₂)₂-, 2,4-dichlorophenyl-(CH₂)₂-, monochlorophenyl-(CH₂)₂-, 2,4-trifluoromethyl phenyl-(CH₂)₂-, 4-cyanophenyl-(CH₂)₂- or 3-cyanophenyl-(CH₂)₂-, (d) when R^{6'} is heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- it is not indolyl-(CH₂)_x-, wherein x is 1, 2, 3, unsubstituted furanyl-(CH₂)₂-, unsubstituted thienyl-(CH₂)₃- (e) when R^{6'} is carbocyclyl it is not cyclohexyl, (f) when R^{6'} is carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- it is not unsubstituted cyclohexyl-(CH₂)₁₋₃-, (g) when R^{6'} is heterocyclyl it is not N-pyrrolidinyl or 2-dihydrobenzofuranyl, (h) when R^{6'} is aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- it is not unsubstituted phenyl-(CH₂)-O-, and (i) when R' is hydrogen, R'' is not unsubstituted phenyl, 4-halophenyl, 3-halophenyl, methoxyphenyl, nitrophenyl, 2-chlorophenyl, 4-methylphenyl, dichlorophenyl, 3,5-dimethylphenyl, 3-methylphenyl, 3-cyanophenyl, 3-aminophenyl, 3-aminocarbonylphenyl, 3-benzoic acid, 3-benzoic acid ethyl ester, 6-amino-3-pyridyl, 5-(2-chloro)pyridyl, 5-(2-methoxy)pyridyl, 5-indanyl, unsubstituted cyclohexyl, 1,1-dimethylethyl, unsubstituted phenyl-CH₂-, unsubstituted naphthyl or benzotriazol-3-yl and when R' is methyl, R'' is not cyclopropylbenzene;

- R^{6''} represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR'R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl,

aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-; and

- R^{6'''} represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR'R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, provided that when R^{6'''} is aryl it is not 4-methylphenyl, provided that the compound of formula (Ib) is not N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide.

36. (Currently amended) A ~~benzodiazepine derivative~~ compound according to claim 35 wherein:

- R^{5'} is C₃₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl), aryl-C(O)-C(O)-, heteroaryl-C(O)-C(O)-, carbocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)-, heterocyclyl-C(O)-C(O)- or -X';

- X' is -CO-R^{6'}, -S(O)-R^{6''} or -S(O)₂-R^{6'''};

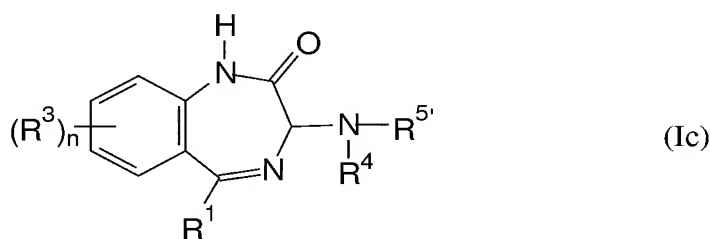
- R^{6'} is ~~C₁₋₆ alkyl~~, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR'R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-;

- R^{6''} represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, aryl, heteroaryl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR'R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₃ alkyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-; and

- R^{6'''} is C₁₋₆ alkyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O-, heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-O- or -NR'R'' wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₆

alkyl, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, heteroaryl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl), carbocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)- or heterocyclyl-(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-.

37. (Currently amended) A ~~benzodiazepine derivative~~ compound according to claim 35 wherein R² is hydrogen.
38. (Currently amended) A ~~benzodiazepine derivative~~ compound of formula (Ic), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,



wherein:

- R¹ is phenyl or methyl;
- R³ is methyl or chlorine;
- n is 0 or 1;
- R⁴ is hydrogen or methyl;
- R⁵ is phenyl-CH₂-, thienyl-C(O)-C(O)- or -X';
- X' is -CO-R^{6'}, -CONR'R'', -S(O)₂R^{6'''} or -S(O)₂-NR/R//; and
- R^{6'} is ~~C₁₋₄ alkyl~~, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, cyclopentyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl-CH₂-CH(OH)-, phenyl-CH(OH)-CH₂-, phenyl-(C₂ alkyl)-O- or 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-only;
- R^{6'''} is C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, phenyl, naphthyl, dihydrobenzofuranyl, benzodioxinyl, 9H-fluoren-9-onyl, indolyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyrazolyl, pyridyl, benzothienyl, benzofuranyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-, phenyl-CH₂-CH(OH)-, phenyl-CH(OH)-CH₂-, phenyl-(C₁₋₂ alkyl)-O- or 1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2(3H)-only;
- each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C₁₋₄ alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl-(CH₂)_n-; and

- each R_I and R_{II} is the same or different and represents hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, phenyl, thienyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl or phenyl-(CH₂)-, wherein:

the phenyl moiety in the group R^1 being unsubstituted or substituted by a single fluorine, chlorine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkoxy, C_{1-2} alkylthio, C_{1-2} haloalkyl or C_{1-2} haloalkoxy substituent;

the aryl moieties in the groups $R^{5'}$, $R^{6'}$ and $R^{6'''}$ being unsubstituted or substituted by 1,2 or 3 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-4} haloalkoxy, amino, mono(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, nitro, $-CO_2R'$, $-S(O)_2R'$ and $-S(O)_2NH_2$, wherein R' represents C_{1-2} alkyl;

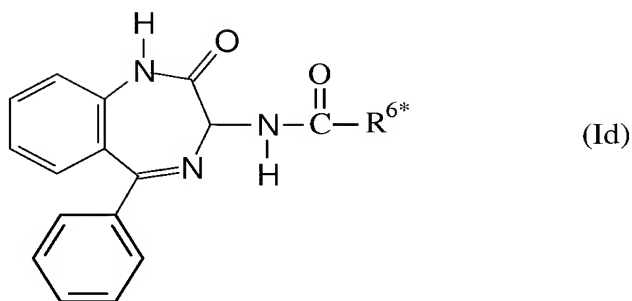
the heteroaryl moieties in the groups $R^{5'}$, $R^{6'}$ and $R^{6'''}$ being unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} haloalkyl and di(C_{1-2} alkyl)amino;

the heterocyclyl and carbocyclyl moieties in the $R^{6'''}$ group being unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl and nitro;

the aryl, heteroaryl and carbocyclyl moieties in the R' and R'' being unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkoxy, C_{1-2} alkylthio, C_{1-2} haloalkyl and nitro; and

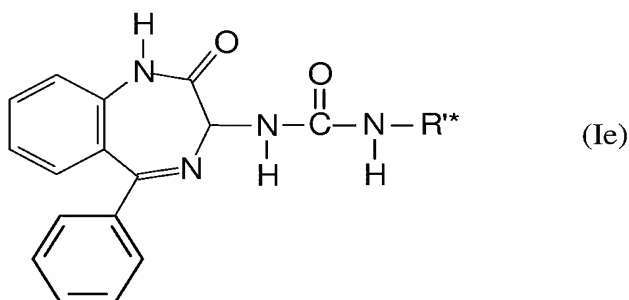
the aryl, heteroaryl and carbocyclyl moieties in the R_I and R_{II} being unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-2} alkyl, C_{1-2} alkoxy, C_{1-2} alkylthio, C_{1-2} haloalkyl and nitro, provided that the compound of formula (Ic) is N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide.

39. (Currently amended) A ~~benzodiazepine derivative~~ compound of formula (Id), or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof



wherein R^{6*} is an aryl group which is unsubstituted or substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from ~~halogen~~fluorine, bromine, iodine, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-7} acyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)carbamoyl, amino, mono(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, $-CO_2R'$, $-CONR'R''$, $-S(O)R'$, $-S(O)_2R'$, $-S(O)NR'R''$, $-S(O)_2NR'R''$, $-NH-S(O)_2R'$ or $-NH-CO-R'$, wherein each R' and R'' is the same or different and represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl, ~~provided that R^{6*} is not a 4-chlorophenyl group.~~

40. (Currently amended) A ~~benzodiazepine derivative~~ compound of formula (Ie) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof



wherein R'^* is an aryl group which is unsubstituted or substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-4} alkyl, ~~C_{1-4} alkoxy~~, C_{1-4} alkylthio, C_{1-4} haloalkyl, C_{1-4} haloalkoxy and nitro.

41. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 35, selected from 1,1-Diethyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;
~~N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide~~
~~N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-butyramide~~
~~N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isobutyramide~~

~~2,2-Dimethyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide~~

~~Cyclopentanecarboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide~~

~~Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide~~

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Morpholine-4-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

4-Methyl-piperazine-1-carboxylic acid -(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Benzo[b]thiophene-3-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Isoxazole-5-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-methanesulfonamide;

Propane-1-sulfonic acid-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Butane-1-sulfonic acid-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

~~N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isobutyramide~~

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isonicotinamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-nicotinamide;

~~N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-acetamide~~

(S)-2-Methoxy-4-nitro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

(S)-1-(2-Fluoro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

2-Chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

4-Methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

2-Methoxy-4-methylsulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

4-Methanesulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)terephthalamic acid methyl ester;

5-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

3-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-terephthalamic acid methyl ester;

2-Methylsulfonyl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

4-Amino-5-chloro-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

4-Methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

(S)-2,4,5-Trifluoro-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

(S)-5-Acetyl-2-ethoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide;

2-Methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-5-sulfamoylbenzamide;

1-tert-Butyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

1-Cyclohexyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

1-Ethyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

1-Butyl-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea;

4,5-Dimethyl-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)amide;

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid (7-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

~~N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]acetamide~~

~~N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-isobutyramide~~

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [5-(3chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid [5-(3-chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]isonicotinamide;

~~N-[5-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-isobutyramide~~

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Piperidine-1-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Piperidine-4-carboxylic acid [5-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-amide;

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid (8-chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

6-Morpholin-4-yl-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-nicotinamide;

Pyridine-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

6-Fluoro-4H-benzo[1,3]dioxine-8-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

1H-Pyrazole-4-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

6-Dimethylamino-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-nicotinamide;
2-Ethoxy-naphthalene-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
9-Oxo-9H-fluorene-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
2-Oxo-2,3-dihydro-benzimidazole-1-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)carbamic acid tert-butyl ester;
(S)-6-Fluoro-4H-benzo[1,3]dioxine-8-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
(S)-4,5-Dibromo-furan-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
(S)-3-Methoxy-naphthalene-2-carboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;
(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid methyl ester;
(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid ethyl ester;
(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-carbamic acid isobutyl ester; or
2-Oxo-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-thiophene-2-yl-acetamide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

42. (Canceled)
43. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a benzodiazepine derivative according to Claim 31, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluant or carrier.
44. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising an optically active isomer of a benzodiazepine derivative according to Claim 31.

45. (Withdrawn) A composition according to claim 43 which is in the form of a tablet, troche, lozenge, aqueous or oily suspension, dispersible powders or granules.
46. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a benzodiazepine derivative of the formula (I), as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which process comprises:
- (a) reacting 2-amino-benzophenone with bromoacetyl bromide, or an equivalent reagent, followed by ring closure with ammonia;
 - (b) protecting the NH group on the thus obtained compound by reacting with a base and an alkylating agent;
 - (c) reacting the protected intermediate thereby obtained with a base in a suitable solvent, to obtain thereby an oxime intermediate;
 - (d) converting the thus obtained oxime intermediate into a corresponding racemic primary amine;
 - (e) carrying out dynamic kinetic resolution on the racemic amine in the presence of a suitable optically active acid and a suitable aldehyde to precipitate a salt of the (S)-amine.
47. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 46, which further comprises:
- (f) transforming the optically active amine obtained in step (e) into an amide or urea.
48. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 46 wherein the protecting group introduced in step (b) is 4-methoxy-benzyl.
49. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 46, wherein the benzodiazepine derivative of the formula (I) is (S)-1-(2-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea or (S)-4-methanesulfonyl-2-methoxy-N-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-benzamide.
50. (New) The compound of claim 40, wherein R'* is a phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted by a single fluorine, chlorine, or bromine substituent.
51. (New) A compound according to claim 40, wherein the compound is (S)-1-(2-Fluorophenyl)-3-(2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-urea.

52. (New) A compound selected from N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-butyramide;

N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isobutyramide;

2,2-Dimethyl-N-(2-Oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-propionamide;

Cyclopentanecarboxylic acid (2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

Cyclohexanecarboxylic acid 2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-amide;

N-(7-Chloro-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-isobutyramide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)acetamide;

N-[5-(3-Chloro-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-isobutyramide; or

N-[5-(3-Methoxy-phenyl)-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl]-isobutyramide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.